

# CAPITOL STUFF

By JOHN O'DONNELL

Washington, Dec. 24.—**It is no doubt impertinent and**

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not in keeping with the joyous spirit of the season to take note of unpleasant affairs on Christmas morning. Nevertheless it's helpful to acknowledge the hard facts of international life which must be faced on the morning after.

In this case these facts, which have been ignored, overshadowed or probably forgotten, spell out the current relations between Russia and Communist China on the one hand, and India and the remainder of the Southeast Asia complex of nations on the other.

The facts existed up to the date of President Eisenhower's departure on his fabulous journey to Afghanistan, New Delhi—and the storied Northwest Frontier of Rudyard Kipling. There is no reason to hope that there has been any change merely because millions of people poured into the streets and bazaars to take part in the pleasing spectacle of the lavish ceremonies accorded the visit of the American President.

The important and significant report on the true state of affairs in the Far East turned up in a quiet and little-noted hearing held here by the Senate Internal Security subcommittee.

Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.), who has been spending long and serious hours in this committee's service, was presiding. The witness was Aleksandr Yurevich Kasnakheyev, who on June 24, 1959, defected from his post as a Soviet intelligence undercover agent assigned to the Russian embassy in Rangoon, Burma. He supposedly was a regular diplomatic officer with public information duties.

Kasnakheyev made his way into American protection and has been furnishing all the information he has on Russian operations, plans and designs.

Under the patient examination of Sen. Dodd and J. G. Sourwine, the committee chief counsel, the Russian told how the Kremlin and the Chinese Reds have cut up the Far East into definite spheres of influence for themselves, in the best old-style capitalist tradition.

For itself, the witness said, Russia has taken India, Afghanistan, all the Arab states and Ceylon.

## Indonesia a Red 'Cooperation'

"In the sphere of influence of Communist China," the witness said in remarkably good but no flawless English, "are Burma, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaya, Laos, Viet Nam, and probably Indonesia."

He put the "probably" before Indonesia because he said the Chinese and Russians "cooperate in this area."

Clearly and emphatically, the witness said, the ties between Kremlin and Peiping are strong and growing stronger. The only differences are in tactics. For the present, Moscow wants a "short-term period" of friendly neutrality with the bordering Asian states. Peiping wants to move in abruptly and conquer her neighbors. The long-range objective is the same: "Communist domination."



Sen. Thomas J. Dodd  
Hears interesting testimony

The Chinese-Indian border fighting, the witness related, is regarded by the Russians as a "definite violation" of the Russian sphere of influence. Moscow made this clear to Peiping. There are conflicts in other of the bordering states, Kasnakheyev testified. But all of them result purely from the application of tactics and long-range strategy—and are not too serious.

## India Is the Chief Goal

"The main interest of Soviet foreign policy in Southeast Asia," the witness testified, "is related to India."

He pointed out that while by the nature of their peoples the Russian and Chinese regimes must differ, "they are common in that both are dictatorial regimes in common cause and have one common enemy—all free-world countries. . . . They are common because they have one and the same mind; that is, Communist doctrine that they use for preserving their own power inside their countries and for covering their expansion abroad."

There should be nothing amazing in this picture of Russian designs and intentions for India and for Afghanistan and its Khyber Pass opening the roadway to the south. The situation has been unchanged for generations, save for some unusual alterations.

## Kipling Saw It Coming

The alarming and uneasy testimony this month of Kasnakheyev was nothing more than an updated confirmation of the prophetic words of Rudyard Kipling three-quarters of a century ago when this intensely nationalistic writer foresaw the pattern of conquest.

Kipling had an acute nose for current and coming events and more than once paid his respects to the Russian threat to British-held India at a time when the thought of Indian independence was wholly untouchable.

He inscribed his warning back in 1890 most pointedly perhaps a story he called "The Man Who Was," a tragic tale of an English officer captured in the Crimea, broken in mind and body by the Russians and who as a dirty, ragged thief was restored to sanity at an instant at the sight of a Czarist officer in a British uniform in the Khyber Pass.

## Wisdom, Snar in His Cups

The Russian officer Kipling called Dirkovitch got thoroughly drunk and in a farewell speech to his hosts sneered at the impotent Czar as well as at the British as being tired, old people who inevitably crumble and be wafted away when the Slavs finally come to life and begin taking over.

"The Czar!" Kipling's Dirkovitch cried. "Push! I snap my fingers at him. Do I believe in him? No!"

"Hear you, old peoples, we have done nothing in the world yet here. All our work is to do; and it shall be done, old peoples, go away!"

From the testimony on the record of plans just restated, Kipling might well have written those lines yesterday.